

What is Conservation?

- Definitions from:

Textbooks

State Plan

Dictionary

“One goal of conservation biology is the achievement of sustainable use, which has been defined as the use of natural resources that aims to satisfy the needs of present generations without comprising the needs of future generations.”

Conservation and Biodiversity

“Conservation is the wise utilization of a resource so that use is tempered by protection to enhance the resource’s continued availability.”

Exploitation Conservation Preservation
A Geographic Perspective on Natural
Resource Use

“Conservation” means the “controlled use and systematic protection of natural resources, as forests and waterways.”

Webster's II New Riverside University
Dictionary

“Conservation” means the “Planned management of a natural resource to prevent its destruction and neglect.”

Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Strategy

GOALS

Tennessee

Minnesota

Washington

Arkansas

Tennessee

“It shall be the goal of the State of Tennessee to provide the maximum practicable benefits to Tennessee and her citizens by conserving, enhancing, and restoring the acreage, quality, and biological diversity of Tennessee wetlands.”

Objectives from Tennessee

Characterize the State's wetland resource base more completely, and identify the critical functions of the major types of wetlands in each physiographic province.

Identify and prioritize unique, exceptionally high quality, or scarce wetland community types and sites for acquisition or other equally effective protection.

Identify priority wetlands restoration sites in each river corridor and explore appropriate restoration methods for each wetland type, including the restoration of natural floodplain hydrology.

Restore 70,000 acres of wetlands by 2000.

Tenn. (cont.)

Achieve no overall net loss of wetlands acreage and function in each USGS hydrologic unit.

Increase the level of benefits to landowners.

Create more urban riparian areas, wetland greenbelts, and wildlife corridors.

Increase wetland information delivery to local governments, the public, and schools.

Establish meaningful state wetlands use classifications and water quality standards.

Minnesota

“The goal for wetland conservation in Minnesota is to maintain and restore the quality and diversity and acreage the overall quality of wetlands in the state, varying regionally in accordance with differences in the character and health of the wetland resource, in order to promote ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable communities.”

Minnesota Issues

Regional Differences

Functional Assessment

Wetland restoration

Economic considerations

Regulatory simplification

Customized education

Washington

“It is the interim goal to achieve overall no net loss in acreage and function of Washington’s remaining wetlands base. It is further the long-term goal to increase the quantity and quality of Washington’s wetlands resource base.”

Washington Topics

Regulatory reform

Economics

Planning and Public Process

Education

Non-regulatory methods

Technical Aspects of Wetlands Protection

Arkansas

“It shall be the goal of the State of Arkansas to preserve, protect, conserve, enhance, and restore the acreage, quality, biological diversity and ecosystem sustainability of Arkansas’ wetlands for citizens past and present.”

Arkansas Objectives

Achieve “no net loss” and a long term gain of wetland function and value in each region.

Characterize the composition, function, and landscape patterns of wetlands in Arkansas.

Conduct analyses that identify priority wetlands protection and restoration sites, based on the characteristics, distribution and functions of existing wetland in Arkansas.

Develop better understanding of wetland hydrology, composition, structure, functions, and values as well as techniques for management and restoration through research on Arkansas wetlands.

Arkansas cont.

Increase the quantity and enhance the quality of Arkansas wetlands on public lands through the coordinated acquisition and improved stewardship.

Increase the level of public and landowner knowledge and benefits from wetland conservation on private lands through education and incentives for wetland protection, restoration, stewardship, and enhancement.

Support creation of urban/riparian greenbelts for public use, education, and urban wildlife habitats.

Develop administrative organizational structure for private and public mitigation activities.

Develop state capacity for tracking wetland activity and long-term monitoring of wetland protection and restoration efforts.